

To-day's Advertisements.

DO YOU DRINK BEER?

If so, the chief points to consider are flavor, body, color, digestive properties.

A beer which excels in all these qualities is essentially healthy, invigorating and refreshing.

EPICURES SAY that RAINIER BEER surpasses all other beers on this account. Competent judges pronounce it to be the KING OF BEERS. Wherever it is introduced it immediately becomes popular.

EXPERIENCE PROVES that RAINIER BEER is the best table beer in the market.

TESTS SHOW that it is the best beer for the tropics, thus demonstrating its "keeping qualities."

RAINIER BEER.

The leading Hotels and Clubs keep "RAINIER," because it is always in demand.

F. E. BISHOP,

Acting Manager.

Ice House Lane,
Hongkong, 8th December, 1896.

ELITE SKATING RINK,

LATE
VICTORIA HALL,
DUDELL STREET.AFTERNOON SESSION—from 5 to 7 P.M.
PRICES:—Skates and Admission 50 Cents.

Admission 25

EVENING SESSION—from 8.30 to 12 P.M.
PRICES:—Skates and Admission \$1.00

Admission 50

NAVAL AND MILITARY NIGHTS
EVERY WEDNESDAY.FANCY DRESS CARNIVAL ON FRIDAY,
the 12th instant.

DANCING TO COMMENCE AT 11 P.M.

Special attractions for the Regatta Night.

The HONGKONG REGIMENTAL BAND
will be in attendance nightly.SAM MARKS,
Proprietor.

Hongkong, 7th December, 1896. (1896)

PROGRAMME

OF
3RD ORGAN RECITAL,TO BE GIVEN BY
MR. GEORGE GRIMBLEAT
UNION CHURCH,ON
MONDAY, the 14th December, 1896,
AT 6.45 P.M.

1.—Offertoire, from "TH. DUBOIS.

2.—"Messe de Mariage".....

3.—Tenor Solo, "Eusebe," L. VON BERTHOVEN.

MR. ERNST MIROW.

4.—Andante in F.....EDWARD BATISTE.

5.—Allegretto Grazioso.....BERTHOUD TOURS.

6.—Contralto Solo.....

(a) "In Delia Paenide".....SEBASTIAN BACH.

(b) "Gottes Zeit".....

(c) "The Shepherd".....PETER CORNELIUS.

and "The Kings" (from the Xmas Carols of

Sketch).....DR. WM. SPARK.

7.—Tenor Solo "The

Holy City".....

MR. GEO. P. LAMBERT.

8.—Concert Slick (for

Organ).....DR. WM. SPARK.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1896. (1896)

JUST LANDEL.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT of TOM

SMITH'S and BATGER'S unusually

Attractive CRACKERS, causing untiring fun

and general merriment.

ALSO

Many other Xmas Varieties, as XMAS

CAKES, PLUM PUDDINGS, SHORT-

BREAD, CALLARD and BOWERY Assorted

TOFFEE and BUTTERSCOTCH, DRIED

FRUITS, NUTS, CANDIED PEEL, &c.

H. RUTTENBERG.

13, D'Arny Street.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1896. (1896)

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,

LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI

THE Company's Steamship

"KWEILIN."

Capt'n Harris, will be despatched as above

TO-MORROW, the 9th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1896. (1896)

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,

LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAIMUN."

Captain Bathurst, will be despatched for the

above Ports on THURSDAY, the 10th instant,

at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1896. (1896)

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,

LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Company's Steamship

"WUOSUNG."

Capt'n Jones, will be despatched as above

on THURSDAY, the 10th instant, at 2 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1896. (1896)

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SANDAKAN AND KUDAT.

THE Company's Steamship

"MEINON."

Capt'n Moiridge, will be despatched as above

on SATURDAY, the 12th instant, at 2 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1896. (1896)

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK &

COMPANY, LIMITED,

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,

HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARSAPARILLA.

RASPBERRYADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are

made under the constant supervision of a duly

qualified English Chemist and will bear com-

parison with the best English Manufactures.

Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MESSERS and

other Large Consumers.

Any complaints should be addressed to the

Manager.

HONGKONG, 2nd May 1896. (1896)

EYE-SIGHT.

NOTICE.

MR. N. LAZARUS, Oculist-Optician, of

LONDON and CALCUTTA, may be con-

sulted for SPECTACLES at the HONGKONG

HOTEL (Room No. 139).

ONLY FOR A FEW DAYS MORE.

A great proportion of cataracts and diseases

affecting those advancing in life occur to those

having some deficiency in the construction of

the eyes—the many years of "Eye Strain"

ending in serious forms of diseases. Glasses

specially adapted in youth to those requiring

them save and preserve the sight.

Constantly recurring headaches, spells of

dizziness when reading, weak eyes, the letters

running together; any of these symptoms indi-

cate a deficiency in the form of the eye requiring

Glasses only to correct and cure.

Mr. LAZARUS supplies his SPECTACLES

only after testing the sight.

ADVICE FREE.

HONGKONG HOTEL,

(Room No. 139).

Hongkong, 5th December, 1896. (1896)

A. S. WATSON & CO.,

LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES
AND
SPIRITS.ALL these are selected by our London House,
bought direct at first hand, imported in wood
and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all inter-

mediate profits, and enabling us to supply the

best growths at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on

Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month

before use. When required for drinking at

once it should be ordered to be decanted at the

DISPENSARY before being sent out.

SHERRY.—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner

Wines of very superior Vintages. All are

true Xeres Wines.

CLARET.—Our Claret, including the lowest

Price, are guaranteed to be the genuine

product of the juice of the grape and are not

artificially made from raisins and currants,

as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY.—All our Brandy is guaranteed to be

pure COGNAC, the difference in price being

merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY.—All our Whisky is of excellent

quality and of greater age than most brands

in the market. The SCOTCH WHISKY

marked "E" is universally popular, and is

pronounced by the best local connoisseurs

to be superior to any other brand in the

Hongkong market.

We only guarantee our WINES and SPIRITS

to be genuine when bought direct from us in the

Colon or from our authorised Agents at the

Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

HONGKONG, 15th September, 1896. (1896)

MARRIAGE.
At the residence of the officiating clergyman
15, Tsimshui, on the 5th inst., by the Rev.
JOHN W. WADMAN, assisted by the Rev. B. W.
WATERS, of Onaka, the Rev. CHARLES A.
TAGUE, of Hiroshima, to Miss GRACE TUCKER,
of Rochester, N. Y., formerly of Fukuoka.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1896.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

EGYPT.

LONDON, December 6th.

Egypt has accepted the offer of Great Britain

for pecuniary aid.

[The offer of Great Britain consisted of

an advance of £500,000, which the

Alexandria Court of Appeal condemned the

Egyptian Government to pay for the

Donaghi campaign.]

"DOWN WITH THE TYRANT!"

Several Turks have been arrested and called

to Anatolia without trial. They are believed to

be connected with the Liberal party, which is

growing in strength, and has sent manifestos to

the Embassies demanding political liberties, and

concluding with "Down with the tyrant."

(From Koda Chronicle.)

A BANK FOR FORMOSA.

TOKIO, November 29th.

The Government proposes to establish a large

bank in Formosa. The bill is to be submitted

to the Diet in the coming session. It is said

that the capital of the bank is fixed at five million

yen and it will be given the privilege of issuing

bank notes the same as the Bank of Japan.

REMARKABLE SPEECH BY COUNT

OKUMA.

TOKIO, November 28th.

Count Okuma, Minister for Foreign Affairs,

delivered a speech at a meeting of the Oriental

Society held at the Imperial Hotel last night.

He said that he did not think it necessary to

resort to strategy in conducting diplomatic

affairs; he was prepared to act frankly, being

guided solely by the principles of truth and

justice. He observed that the relations

between Japan and the Treaty Powers were very

friendly and satisfactory, and it was his desire

to develop foreign trade and so unite the interests

of the Powers; with a view to prevent any

ambitious nation disturbing the peace of the

world. He would never pass over in silence any

attempt to intrude upon the national rights and

interests of Japan. At such a time the patriotism

of the nation would be fully displayed.

THE COURT SCANDAL.

TOKIO, November 28th.

It is reported that the appeal of the Twenty-

sixth Century in the libel case relative to the

Minister of the Imperial Household has been

dismissed, but no notice has yet been received

by the counsel of the defendants.

The principal officials in the Imperial House-

hold Department, who will be dismissed are

Banno, Director of the Imperial Estates

Bureau; Mr. Yamashiki, Director of the Chodo

Kyoku; and Mr. Matsuno, a Secretary. Their

dismissal from office will shortly be announced.

After that, Count Hijioka will be superseded as

Minister of the Imperial Household. In the

Home Department, Mr. Arimatsu, a Secretary,

will be dismissed for the same reason as the

Director of the Police Affairs Bureau.

[No authority is given for this allegation.—Ed.]

THE GERMAN TREATY.

TOKIO, November 29th.

The new German treaty gives the subjects

of either country the right to take immovable

property as security in the other country. It is

expected that foreigners in Japan will advance

money at low interest on this security. The

relations between Germany and Japan can be

then become as landlord and tenants and it is

feared that this will finally give rise to a Social-

ist agitation. The authorities therefore have

the subject under consideration.

BOYCOTTING JAPANESE IN KOREA.

A despatch from Mr. Kato, Charge d'Affaires

in Seoul, states that after vigorous remon-

strance with the Korean Government, he had

sent Japanese police officials to the localities

where the export of rice was prohibited, and the

prohibition has been removed. It is said that

Mr. Kato has extracted a promise from the

Korean Government not to repeat the illegal

prohibition.

PROFESSOR BURTON AND THE

MUNICIPALITY.

TOKIO, November 28th.

The report that the Tokyo Municipal Council

offered Professor Burton \$3,000 in full satisfac-

tion of a claim for \$13,500 as remuneration, etc.,

for services rendered in connection with the City

Waterworks, is correct. The Council refused to

accept the claim, and it is reported that Pro-

fessor Burton intends to bring an action at law

to enforce payment.

THE ONWO-NEUCHWANG

COLLISION.

This afternoon Messrs Benjamin, Kelly and

Potts received a telegram from Shanghai stating

that in the Onwo-Neuchwang collision case

both steamers have been found to blame.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THERE will be a Hockey match to-morrow

afternoon, Wigman Lawn Tennis Club v. The

Club. Ballyat 4.40 sharp.

THE Rev. W. H. Elton, Chaplain of Sandakan,

is expected by the blue-funnel line steamer

Dunellan, due here in a few days.

H.M.S. *Edwin* and *Spartan* arrived at Shang-

hai on the 4th instant. It is reported that the

Spartan will shortly come to Hongkong.

DAKIN, CRICKETMAN & CO.

For the Christmas season Messrs Dakin, Crickman & Co. are showing a fine lot of fancy confectionery including Cadbury's Chocolates, which are packed in pretty boxes, and are very suitable for bestowing upon your young friends as "Christmas boxes." The showcases also contain some nice things in silver such as cigar and cigarette cases, writing sets, smelling bottles, &c. The boxes of perfume with cut glass and stoppered bottles also make a very reasonable offering for the ladies and they have a steady demand. Toilet requisites, puff boxes, brushware, &c., are also displayed in attractive designs. Cordials and canned waters are an indispensable adjunct to Christmas fare, and the firm supply their own popular make of these things, together with the choicest brands of wines and spirits.

H. RUTONJEE.

At 13, D'Agallier street, Mr. H. Rutonjee has everything in the shape of provision to glad the heart of young and old. His long experience in this business in Hongkong has enabled him to gauge the public taste to a nicety, and his stock is as complete as the most fastidious of housekeepers could desire. Among the many other good things we noticed a fine show of the Australian Pilsener brand of beer which are selling very readily. All the English delicacies of Huntley and Palmer and Cross and Blackwell are on sale, and in preserves and condiments, especially Indian pickles, sauces and chutneys Mr. Rutonjee has an assortment of which he is justly proud. Delicacies for dessert, such as dried fruits, nuts etc., are on hand and newly stocked for Christmas. For the children there is such a display of choice French sweets and crystallized fruits, English sweets and toffees, and Tom Smith's and Baigey's crackers as would fairly demoralize the best disciplined of nurseries. Raphael Tuck's and other Christmas cards are seen in endless variety, prices ranging from a few cents up to dollars, and some of the cards are indeed veritable works of art. For the conviviality of the season there are Colman's Mustard (Wheelers' bottling) and Bass' Beer, Four Crown Whisky, and Isle of Skye Whisky, for all of which Mr. Rutonjee is sole agent. In fact, barring the roast beef, one could supply every gastronomic need for Christmas Day without going outside the shop. Mr. Rutonjee, like the other business people in town, says he finds business very good indeed.

G. GIRALDI.

Mr. G. Giraldi, the popular French confectioner, at No. 6, Queen's Road, has provided for the holiday season in admirable style, and those who have bent on picnics or winter parties can feel quite safe in entrusting the commissariat to our genial chef. His cakes, game and meat pies and pastries are first class and he has a large stock of preserves from British and Continental makers that are well adapted to holiday-makers' requirements. We also sampled some delicious dried fruits and sweets which are packed in just the daintiest of boxes to suit the ladies. Of toys, too, Mr. Giraldi has made a good selection, and he has all the choicest perfumes for sale in most attractive shape. His wines, too, and spirits seem to form an indispensable feature in his stock. Hongkong business houses have not been neglected by our Gallic friend and he has a stock that will repay inspection. Mr. Giraldi, who has had considerable experience in Paris, is prepared to cater for parties in tip-top style on shortest notice, and his workmen are all skilled cooks.

CH. H. GAUP.

It is not much use for an impecunious newspaper man to linger over the jewels in Mr. Gaup's establishment as they come too high for him; but should any one care to select a piece of diamond jewelry for presentation purposes, nothing better can be found in the city. The contents of one iron safe fairly dazzled the Telegraph man's eyes with their brilliancy. There were diamond bracelets, necklets, pendants, stars, rings and flowers, diamond, turquoise, and sapphire and ruby rings, opal necklets, pins, etc. In the show cases were gold and silver watches of the leading makes, fancy clocks, some prettily set in hand-painted porcelain, silver trinkets, gold chain lock bangles, pens and pencil cases, all of which offer an easy choice in the selection of presents, and the special line of Voltaire and Son's bloncles for which Mr. Gaup is sole agent, are well worth attention.

D. K. CRISTITH.

Amid the many Christmas cards now on the market, there is perhaps none so appropriate for the hatching of a friend as Mr. D. K. Cristith's clever "piddle" English verses. Mr. Cristith, whose business place is in Queen's Road, is the originator of these quaint annual greetings in "piddle" to the old folk at home. His lures this season is miscellaneous, unique and interesting. In the cards he illustrates China and the Chinese only. His idea is that public interest in the Chinese far exceeds that in the Japanese the latter having, he says, surfeited the public taste with a plethora of ill-graced caricatures of nothing in particular. Cristith's "piddle" English verses have an increasing popularity and are unquestionably well suited as souvenirs to post home from residents in China. The old-time "sentiments of Merry Christmas" are given in catchy little quatrains that are easily understood and the illustrations make them very interesting souvenirs of our Eastern home.

FLETCHER & CO.

At the drug store of Messrs Fletcher & Co. an attractive display is made of pennyroyal such as Anthon's Balm, St. Andrew's, and Pinaud's Paris, to exorcise cut glass and stoppered bottles. In addition to such things as the famous Tansen water and the tonic Vin Pasteur, there is a fine assortment of French confectionery and of Tom Smith's crackers, which will enliven evening parties for years to come as they have done in the past. The show cases also contain numerous nice things in the way of brushware, shaving gear, and other little odds and ends that go to make a toilet table complete. The stock has been chosen with good taste and the general manager (Mr. McIvor) says he will have a specially palatable black draught brewed for Boxing Day.

W. POWELL & CO.

On our visiting Messrs W. Powell & Co's store, in Queen's Road, to-day was very evident that Santa Claus was approaching. The stock of Christmas toys here is very large and every kind of toy, girl, or infant is provided for with English, American, and Continental toys. For the ladies there are innumerable nice things, such as dressing and jewel cases, glass vases, work baskets, gloves, purses, the homely sewing machine, and the inevitable paraphernalia. Gentlemen are provided for with pipes, tobacco pouches, bags, stiffs, gloves, hosiery, ties, cigar and cigarette cases, and other things useful to the sterner sex. Powell & Co. make a specialty of furnishing, and their stock of carpets, chintz, oil stoves, glass ware, bedding, fenders, and so forth, is well worth inspection by those about to marry or those who, having married, wish to refurbish for Christmas or the New Year. In ladies' hats, silk blouses, and dresses, lace, ribbons, shoes, &c., the stock is very extensive, and the large daily attendance of lady customers speaks volumes for their appreciation of La Maison Powell.

Other stores will be noticed to-morrow.

FOOTBALL.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB V. ROYAL ARTILLERY.

This match was played yesterday afternoon at Happy Valley, a large number of spectators being present. The Artillery had four of their best men absent, their places being taken by comrades who were practically non-players, so they can hardly be judged by yesterday's result. The Club had a strong team and there being no wind to speak of neither side gained advantage from favourable breezes. The teams were as follows:—

HONGKONG CLUB—D. Wood, goal; H. Pickett and E. H. Resseley, backs; H. W. Slade, H. W. Looker, A. J. R. Greene, H. H. C. Rowcroft, H. K. R. J. D. Danby, W. D. Mayson, P. G. Davies and A. D. H. Grayson, forwards. ROYAL ARTILLERY—Gr. Leahy, goal; Gr. Briggs and Gr. Vaughan, backs; Gr. Minto, Gr. MacFadden and Sgt. W. A. H. B. Briggs, forwards. The Club kicked off and soon took the ball to the Artillery goal, where it was quickly returned, but driven down again, with two tries at goal by the Artillery as the only result. The Artillery then brought the ball dangerously near the Club's goal, but it was again returned and this time the Club got a corner, which Slade missed badly, the ball going behind the goal, although there was no wind to speak of. Hands was then given against the Artillery, in the vicinity of their goal, but the ball was cleverly headed out and taken to the Club's end, where Mayson got on to it and shot after a quick run but missed. Up and down the field the ball went again and Mayson tried another shot, but failed, while Slade again missed a corner in the same manner as before. The Artillery goalkeeper made a very poor goal kick, which travelled along the ground, instead of rising, and some hot work went on round their goal, Davies trying to head the ball in, but sending it well over the bar. Greene then tried a shot, but the goalkeeper saved it by a neat drop kick, and the ball was taken well up to the Club's goal, where it was returned by one of Looker's fine kicks, and Mayson getting on to it again had another miss to growl over. The game then became very fast round the R.A. goal and both Looker and Mayson shot, but failed. Slade was better this time on the corner, but it was headed out, and although Mayson shot again no score resulted. The R.A.'s then tried to rush the Club's goal, but failed, and some fast play took place round the goal, during which shots were made, one going over the bar and the other being fired out by the goalkeeper. Hands was then given against the Club and their goal had a narrow escape from a rush, which Wood fisted out. The Club then got the ball and rushed it up to the R.A. goal, which was saved by Leahy, and after Danby and Mayson had each tried a shot half time was called, no goal having been scored by either team.

On play being resumed Mayson tried for the R.A. goal, but Leahy was all there and saved it by failing the ball over the bar. The play then became very fast, the Artillery once getting the ball well away, but it was quickly returned and the Club's goal had a narrow escape from a rush, which Wood fisted out. The Club then got the ball and rushed it up to the R.A. goal, which was saved by Leahy, and after Danby and Mayson had each tried a shot half time was called, no goal having been scored by either team. On play being resumed Mayson tried for the R.A. goal, but Leahy was all there and saved it by failing the ball over the bar. The play then became very fast, the Artillery once getting the ball well away, but it was quickly returned and the Club's goal had a narrow escape from a rush, which Wood fisted out. The Club then got the ball and rushed it up to the R.A. goal, which was saved by Leahy, and after Danby and Mayson had each tried a shot half time was called, no goal having been scored by either team. On play being resumed Mayson tried for the R.A. goal, but Leahy was all there and saved it by failing the ball over the bar. The play then became very fast, the Artillery once getting the ball well away, but it was quickly returned and the Club's goal had a narrow escape from a rush, which Wood fisted out. The Club then got the ball and rushed it up to the R.A. goal, which was saved by Leahy, and after Danby and Mayson had each tried a shot half time was called, no goal having been scored by either team.

RUSSIA AND THE DARDANELLES.

[Russia's Message.]

LONDON, November 30th. Russia adheres resolutely to the clauses of the treaty relating to the Black Sea, which, whilst preventing the egress of Russian warships, equally prevents the ingress of foreign warships, and thereby acts as a protection to the Russian fleet.

LONDON, November 30th.

Several Russian newspapers demand the free passage of the Dardanelles to Russian vessels. The St. Petersburg *Borny Gazette* demands the free passage of the Dardanelles for Russian ships alone; also the abrogation of the treaty of 1841.

[Pall Mall Gazette.]

The Dardanelles is the name generally applied to the long, narrow, and sinuous strait which separates the Sea of Marmora from the Mediterranean, though its strict accuracy the name should denote that part of the strait which is known also as the Narrows. From the entrance to the strait the distance is about forty-five miles. The passage is rendered more difficult by a current which flows throughout at a rate of one knot, but which in the Narrows attains a velocity of from three to four and a half knots. At the narrowest point the Dardanelles are 1,000 yards wide at the widest five miles. On either side the ground rises high, and at the Narrows there are cliffs offering extraordinary favourable positions for artillery.

The main defences consist of three groups of forts, placed respectively at the entrance to the strait, just before the Narrows, and at the entrance to the Narrows, with, in addition, a few guns mounted at Gallipoli. The entrance to the strait is nearly 4,000 yards wide; on the north side is Fort Bahir-Kelasa, which has recently been reconstructed, a terraced work mounting 66 guns, of which 12 are mortars. The guns in it are Krupp's, and it is supported by a strong north-west battery, about 10 guns, a little to the north of it stands Fort Peloponnesus, which has 30 guns or mortars. On the south side of the entrance is Fort Kalea, with 52 guns or mortars, many of which are of large calibre. Here again there is an earthwork, with 16 guns. After passing these forts the channel opens out and the current loses its strength, but at Cape Keles the fortway contracts and the second group of forts follows. The width of the passage is a bare mile; the guns commanding it are 44 at Cape Keles and 20 at Fort Balikesah; the works are of earth and difficult to silence.

Again the channel widens and again contracts at the famous Narrows. Here there is an awkward shoal at the narrowest point, where in 1878 the *Alexandra* went ashore and stuck for four hours, only being got off with great difficulty. An almost continuous line of forts flanks the bluffs on either side. On the European bank there comes first Fort Namazgah mounting 60 guns, among which are a dozen Krupp 10-inch weapons, and several muzzle-loading Armstrongs. Then succeed Kild Bahr with 65 weapons—Ticmelen with 40, and Degermif Fort with 13. Above these are new works at Malta and Bosphorus with 250 guns. On the opposite side, near Karsak, is Keth Sultanah, where the 90-ton Krupp and several smaller weapons are mounted; Melidch Fort, a new battery heavily armed with 40 Krupp 6-inch calibre and upwards; Tekir Fort, with 15 guns and some mortars; and, finally, on Nagara point, a very strong work with some 20 modern guns. In all 600 guns, fully a third of which are modern, and 100 mortars, can fire on the channel. The shore defences are supplemented by ten torpedo-boats and two submarine boats, while every arrangement has been made for the placing of mines in the channel.

It was an old maxim that three guns on shore properly mounted and protected were equal to a line-of-battle ship. That maxim, with certain modifications, is as true, or even truer, to-day. The modern ship cannot without great luck hope to silence a single fort; she can only run past and leave the forts behind her. On her way past, if the enemy's gunners are good, she is certain to sustain a great deal of damage. The term "ironclad" is a most misleading one, as some uneducated people imagine that the ship to which it is applied is completely closed in iron. As a matter of fact, the modern ship has armour plating only a small portion of the area of her side; while this armour-plate which she carries cannot be made sufficiently strong to withstand the blows of projectiles delivered vertically from mortars, or from guns placed high on cliffs. At the same time, it is difficult to give her guns sufficient elevation to attack forts which are placed high. The ammunition on board a ship must be strictly limited in quantity, and though a very large supply is carried in British warships, the experience of *Alexandra* shows that even a supply might be insufficient to silence forts manned by determined troops. At *Alexandra*, says an authority, after the bombardment, when the British ships had fired off nearly all their shot and shell, "a close inspection of the forts revealed the startling fact that serious as their injuries appeared to be from the sea, they were not in reality crushing, and that with certain easily effected repairs almost all of the guns might have been fought again. Only ten rifled weapons (out of 40) had been silenced by the fire of the ships."

Horby in 1876, warned the Admiralty that he could not get up the Dardanelles, but that he could not play "a material part" in the game he would have to leave behind him "could not fall to stop transports and colliers, and would be most difficult to silence." He urged very pertinently that, if sent up, his fleet might be left without coal, ammunition, or food—in a truly desperate position. The ship which the United States Government was said to have determined to send up—the *Bancroft*—is a vessel wholly unfit to encounter forts. She is a steel cruiser of 840 tons, unarmoured, except for a few inches of iron on her sides, and armed with four 4-inch and two 6-pounder, and two 3-pounder quick-firers, besides one Gatling. The fleet available to aid her consists of the commerce-destroyer *Albatross*, carrying Rear-Admiral Selldorf's flag, unarmoured, and armed with one 3-inch gun, ten 5-inch quick-firers, and twenty-four smaller weapons; the *San Francisco*, with twelve 6-inch guns and seventeen smaller weapons; the *Chickadee*, with one 6-inch, ten 5-inch quick-firers, and fourteen smaller guns; and the *Marblehead*, with nine 5-inch quick-firers, and ten smaller weapons. The total of five ships, all of which, with no vertical armour and poor ammunition supply, a single heavy shell on the water-line could sink any one of them. For this reason it is wholly improbable that the United States Government will force matters to an action. If the *Bancroft* goes up it will be because the Americans are certain that the Turks will not fire on her. Defences far less formidable than those of the Dardanelles kept an admirably led and heavily armed United States fleet out of Constantinople during the Civil War.

Twice the passage has been forced in the past by fleets in the face of resistance; once, under Admiral Horby, all preparations were made for forcing it, but no resistance was offered. The first occasion was when Admiral Elphinstone ran up, with a Russian fleet of three ships of the line and four frigates, as far as Cape Keles, in 1770. He did not essay to go through the Narrows, and he was wise. The second occasion was when Vice-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth succeeded in 1840. The British force consisted of seven ships of the line, one 60-gun, one 66, one 80, three 74's, and one 64, two on February 19, and passed the outer forts, which were dilapidated and in wretched order, with insignificant loss. He did not reply to the Turkish fire except from his bombs. In the Narrows he encountered a sharper fire, but little loss was inflicted, as only six were killed and fifty-one wounded. The Turkish fleet at Abydos was burnt or run ashore. On entering the Sea of Marmora there was nothing to oppose, and the Turks under General Gubinski's direction, fired at the forts and batteries. On March 3rd, Duckworth returned, short of provisions. The action opened about 9 a.m., and very serious damage was inflicted upon several of the ships. A huge stone shot weighing 800 lb. struck the *Windor Castle's* mainmast. Another of 770 lb. hit the *Standard* about the level of her lower deck. A third, the same size, came through the side of the *Active*, only 2 ft. above her waterline, making a hole 6 ft. 6 in. in diameter. The British loss was twenty-nine killed and 198 wounded, while the Turkish forts were practically uninjured. After this lesson the public at home learned what Nelson and Jervis had tried to teach them—that ships cannot and must not be pitted against shore walls. There were no more attempts to force the Dardanelles in that war.

In 1876, Horby, after several orders and counter-orders, was directed to go up with the battleships *Alexandra*, *Timpérat*, *Suffisura*, *Sultan*, *Agincourt*, and *Achilles*, and the cruisers *Ruby* and *Salama*. In a letter to his chief before he made his move, he wrote, "It is a pretty little bit of sea, in my opinion, to our countrymen being so vain and foolish, and fancying they can settle the Eastern Question, instead of leaving it to the Government." The ships had their yards down and were prepared for battle, when on February 19th, at daylight, they weighed from Besika. The dispositions for the Narrows were these: *Agincourt* and *Achilles* were to engage Namazgah and Sultanah forts; *Alexandra* and *Sultan* were to attack the 40-ton Krupp in Sultanah; *Suffisura* and *Timpérat* were to

push on to Fort Melidch. The *Salama* went on, reconnoitred, and returned with the news that there would be no fight as the tampion was in the big Krupp. Sure enough, when the ships reached the Narrows, the Turkish commander sent a message to the effect that he "refrained from firing, from motives of humanity." On the whole, it was lucky for us that he did, as the *Alexandra*, aground and almost helpless, would probably, if not certainly, have been sunk. The *Sultan* had hard work to drag her off. The *Agincourt* and *Suffisura* were left at Gallipoli to watch the Balaia line, which defend the land approach to the Gallipoli peninsula. The other ships pushed on and anchored at Prince's Island, but Horby wrote the truth to the First Lord when he said: "Not all the fleets in the world can keep them [the Dardanelles] open for unarmoured ships. Small enterprises on the cliffs would always prevent our passage." His words might read a lesson to some hard-bellied Englishmen, who are now eager to run our fleet a rail-trip.

RE THE BOURSE GAZETTE.

The St. Petersburg *Bourse Gazette* is the organ of M. de Witte, Minister of Finance, who was on the occasion of the Treaty celebration appointed by Imperial receipt Secretary of State. The receipt in question was issued on the 25th May, 1896, and reads as follows:—"My father, of pious memory, in his unwearied care for the welfare of all branches of the service of the State, appointed you in the year 1893 to the responsible and very arduous post of Minister of Finance. After justifying his confidence, and proving the energetic and conscientious character of his plans, you continued with undiminished zeal to be also my enlightening and useful adviser. At the same time, in the exercise of the exacting duties of State entrusted to you, you have, in addition to brilliant talents, always displayed tireless energy and clear-sighted steadfastness of purpose. In recognition of your labours and efforts, and as a token of my special favour, I appoint you to be my Secretary of State—I remain, with unchanging goodwill—NICHOLAS."

THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

[Saturday, 5th December, 1896.]

NOTIFICATION.

No. 459—Gives list of bills which had passed their first reading at the Council's meeting on December 3rd.

No. 460—Publishes the new bye-law of the Sanitary Board regarding cleaning and lime-whitening of premises.

No. 461—Contains the report of the progress of the Taipeiingham Improvement Works.

No. 462—Contains the correspondence laid before the Council regarding the Gap Rock Light dues.

No. 463—Publishes the report of the Government Offices Committee.

No. 464—Contains the report of the Commission on the Tung Wah Hospital, laid before the Council.

No. 466—Publishes a resolution passed by the Council dealing with the valuation of tenements for rating purposes.

No. 467—Announces the postponement of Special Session of Justices of the Peace until Monday, 14th December, at 2.15 p.m.

No. 468—Contains regulations to be observed in the harbour during the Regatta on 10th and 11th instant.

No. 469—Publishes the minutes of the meeting of the Sanitary Board, held on 19th ult.

No. 470—Notifies that the Crown Rent for the second half of 1896 is payable at the Treasury on or before 31st December.

No. 471—Publishes returns of the average Amount of Bank Notes in circulation and Specie in reserve in Hongkong Banks.

No. 472—Call for tenders for Improvement Works at Taipeiingham, Kowloon.

No. 473—Call for tenders for Improvement Works at Taipeiingham, Kowloon.

No. 474—Publishes correspondence regarding the election of new Directors for the Tung Wah Hospital.

No. 475—Announces the sale by auction of Crown Land at Hung Hom on Monday, 14th December, at 4 p.m.

The Gazette also contains the usual list of unclaimed telegrams lying in the Telegraph Office, and the Post Office list of *post restants*, correspondence, and list of letters, etc., for merchant vessels.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE:

French (Tientsin) to-morrow.

English (Gangto) 13th inst.

American (City of Rio de Janeiro) 13th inst.

Indian (Arvalon) 14th inst.

German (Olympia) 15th inst.

Tacoma (Olympia) 15th inst.

American (City of Peking) 18th inst.

Canadian (Empress of China) 30th inst.

The Agents (Messrs. D. Sanson, Sons & Co.) inform us that the Company's steamer *Arvalon* has been ordered to leave Singapore for this port yesterday afternoon.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Idzumi Maru* left Singapore for this port this morning, and may be expected here on or about the 14th inst. She will call here en route to Japan.

SHIPPING RETURNS.

From 6 p.m. yesterday to 6 p.m. to-day.

ARRIVALS.

Ernest Simon, steamer, from Shanghai

Albion, steamer, from Foochow

Albion, steamer, from Canton

Albion, steamer, from Hongkong

Albion, steamer, from Amoy

Albion, steamer, from Swatow

Albion, steamer, from Ningbo

Albion, steamer, from Shanghai

Albion, steamer, from Foochow

Albion, steamer, from Canton

Albion, steamer, from Hongkong

Albion, steamer, from Amoy

Albion, steamer, from Swatow

Albion, steamer, from Ningbo

Albion, steamer, from Shanghai

Albion, steamer, from Foochow

Albion, steamer, from Canton

Albion, steamer, from Hongkong

Albion, steamer, from Amoy

Albion, steamer, from Swatow

Albion, steamer, from Ningbo

Entertainment.

VICTORIA REGATTA.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 10th and 11th December.

CAPTAIN HARRASSOWITZ having kindly lent the VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB the German Mail S.S. *Hohenzollern* as FLAGSHIP, the COMMITTEE request the pleasure of the Company of the LADIES of Hongkong on Board on the occasion of the ANNUAL REGATTA.

Through the courtesy of the Chief Manager of the DOCK COMPANY the *Fame* will convey Passengers to the Flagship each day, leaving NEW FRONDS WHARF at 12.30 P.M. and 1 P.M. and returning 10 minutes after the Race.

A Portion of the Flagship will be reserved for LADIES and their FRIENDS.

TICKETS of ADMISSION may be obtained from the STEWARD, Victoria Recreation Club, or on board.

By kind permission of Lt.-Col. FAITHFUL and the OFFICERS the BAND of the HONGKONG REGIMENT will perform each day.

W. ARMSTRONG, Hon. Secretary, VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB, Hongkong, 7th December, 1896. [1893]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned will Sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION at his Sales Rooms, Zealand Street, No. 2, ON

FRIDAY, the 11th December, 1896, commencing at 2.30 P.M.

A CHOICE COLLECTION OF JAPANESE WARE, Comprising—

PORCELAIN, VASES, CLOISONNES, TEA SETS, COFFEE SETS, INCENSE BURNERS, PLATES, &c.

And Also A SMALL LOT OF FINE PEKING SNUFF BOTTLES.

TERMS OF SALE:—Cash on delivery. On View at the Undersigned's from THURSDAY, the 10th instant.

PAUL BREWITT, Auctioneer, Hongkong, 7th December, 1896. [1893]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION ON

FRIDAY, the 11th December, 1896, at 3 o'clock P.M., on the Premises,

IN ONE LOT, THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY, Consisting of—

INLAND LOT No. 437 and INLAND LOT No. 661.

For further Particulars and Conditions of Sale, apply to

F. W. MOUNSEY, Solicitor for the Vendor, 51 and 53, Queen's Road Central, or to

C. EWENS, Solicitor, 36, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, 5th December, 1896. [1890]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION ON

SATURDAY, the 13th December, 1896, commencing at 2.30 P.M.

AT HIS SALES ROOMS, DUNDRELL STREET, A LARGE AND SPLENDID COLLECTION OF

TOYS AND FANCY GOODS, Comprising—

CLOCKWORK AND MECHANICAL TOYS, DOLLS, DOLLS' FURNITURE, MAGIC LANTERNS, &c.

AND TOYS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION and in GREAT VARIETY, which will be put up in Suitable Lots.

COME AND SEE!! On View from FRIDAY, the 11th December, TERMS OF SALE:—Cash on delivery.

GEORGE P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer, Hongkong, 5th December, 1896. [1895]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned will Sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION at his Sales Rooms, Zealand Street, No. 2, ON

SATURDAY, the 13th December, 1896, commencing at 3 P.M.

A LARGE COLLECTION OF RARE AND VALUABLE POSTAGE STAMPS, Comprising—

OVER 4,000 DIFFERENT STAMPS. A Splendid chance for Advance Collectors. Catalogues will be ready on WEDNESDAY, the 9th instant.

